

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

PUTNAM, Adam (Republican)
Representative, 12th District, Florida
Elected 2000 to 107th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congress



BACKGROUND

Born: Bartow, Florida -- 31 July 1974
Home: Bartow, Florida
Marital status: Married (Melissa) - two children
Religion: Episcopalian
Education: U of Florida, B.S., 1995
Military: None
Profession: State legislator; citrus and cattle rancher

Political: Florida House, 1997-2000; Defeated Michael Stedem (D) with 57% of the vote to succeed Rep Charles T. Canady (R), who retired. Ran unopposed in 2002.

Rep Putnam, a conservative, is an advocate of increased fiscal accountability at the federal level, heightened military readiness, and tax cuts. Expressed his commitment to protect Social Security and Medicare. Interested in international affairs, predicted that "Latin American trade issues are going to be huge for Florida." Made national security and military readiness issues central tenets of his campaign platform. Warning of the threat of rogue nations with nuclear capabilities and overburdened US armed forces, stated "With fewer troops, aging equipment, and inadequate pay, morale is at an all-time low in our armed services. I believe it's time for America to invest in the necessary resources to combat these problems, and increasing the military pay raise by \$1 billion in order to increase morale among US troops and restore the dignity that comes from serving one's country." Particularly advocates major investments in research and development for new technology and supports the proposed National Missile Defense system. Asserted "I will work to make the armed forces the best-trained, best-equipped, and best-prepared fighting force in the world. We will prioritize missions, develop a vision for America's role, and support our troops and their families to the utmost."

In the 107th Congress, co-sponsored 'concurrent receipt' resolution and a resolution calling for the restoration of health care coverage for retired members of the uniformed services. Taking advantage of the cessation of live-fire exercises at Puerto Rico's Vieques Island, outspoken supporter of increased training at Avon Park Air Force Range. "Increased utilization of the range is a boon to the local economy and it helps make sure that our troops are the best trained in the world." Drafted a 'sense of the Congress' Resolution directing the Pentagon to "ensure that our existing training ranges are preserved for our Nation's current and future military training needs." Stated, "Our military men and women have all volunteered to go into harm's way -- we owe it to them, and their families, to send them there trained to win. Only 1.2% of land in the United States is owned by the Military, while the Federal Government owns about 21.2%. It is not a lot to ask that we dedicate 1% of our great Nation to protect 100% of it for now and in the future."

AF Bases: Avon Park Air Force Range

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